

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 5 1. A mechanical pencil, comprising:  
a barrel;  
a lead feeding mechanism disposed in said barrel to tighten and feed a lead;  
an operating part for causing said lead feeding mechanism to feed the lead; and  
holding portions for holding the lead being provided in at least two positions  
10 between said lead feeding mechanism and a tip end of said barrel spacedly in the axial direction.
2. The mechanical pencil according to claim 1, further comprising:  
a lead holder having a through hole through which the lead penetrates being  
15 provided closer to the tip end than said lead feeding mechanism side in said barrel,  
wherein said holding portions are provided on said lead holder.
3. The mechanical pencil according to claim 2, wherein a maximum static friction  
force generated between the lead holder and an inner peripheral face of said barrel is  
20 set to be larger than a maximum static friction force generated between the holding  
portions and the lead.
4. The mechanical pencil according to claim 2, wherein the lead holder includes a  
body, and an outside cylinder provided concentrically on an outside of the body,

said outside cylinder being formed with a rib projecting in an outside diameter direction to come into contact with an inner peripheral face of the barrel.

5. The mechanical pencil according to claim 4, wherein a slit is formed in a  
5 portion of the outside cylinder in which the rib of the outside cylinder is absent.

6. The mechanical pencil according to claim 2, wherein said lead holder includes  
a body, said body being formed with at least one blade, as at least one of said holding  
portions, projecting in an inside diameter direction in a front end part of said body to  
10 come into contact with the lead.

7. The mechanical pencil according to claim 2, wherein the lead holder includes a  
body, said body being formed with a rib, as at least one of said holding portions,  
projecting in an inside diameter direction in a rear end part of said body to come into  
15 contact with the lead.

8. The mechanical pencil according to claim 7, wherein a slit is formed in a  
portion in which the rib is absent at the rear end part of the body.

20 9. The mechanical pencil according to claim 1, wherein one of said holding  
portions which is forwardly positioned is for holding a lead tightened by the lead  
feeding mechanism, and

wherein one of said holding portions which is rearwardly positioned is for  
holding a lead whose length is shorter than a distance from the lead feeding  
25 mechanism to a tip end of said barrel.

10. A writing instrument, comprising:  
a barrel;  
a writing medium feeding mechanism disposed in said barrel to tighten and  
5 feed a writing medium;  
an operating part for causing said writing medium feeding mechanism to feed  
the writing medium; and  
holding portions for holding the writing medium being provided in at least two  
positions between said writing medium feeding mechanism and a tip end of said barrel  
10 spacedly in the axial direction.
11. The writing instrument according to claim 10, further comprising:  
a writing medium holder having a through hole through which the writing  
medium penetrates being provided closer to the tip end than said writing medium  
15 feeding mechanism side in said barrel,  
wherein said holding portions are provided on said writing medium holder.
12. The writing instrument according to claim 11, wherein a maximum static  
friction force generated between the writing medium holder and an inner peripheral  
20 face of said barrel is set to be larger than a maximum static friction force generated  
between the holding portions and the writing medium.
13. The writing instrument according to claim 11, wherein the writing medium  
holder includes a body, and an outside cylinder provided concentrically on an outside  
25 of the body,

14. The writing instrument according to claim 13, wherein a slit is formed in a  
5 portion of the outside cylinder in which the rib of the outside cylinder is absent.

16. The writing instrument according to claim 11, wherein the writing medium holder includes a body, said body being formed with a rib, as at least one of said holding portions, projecting in an inside diameter direction in a rear end part of said body to come into contact with the writing medium.

20 18. The writing instrument according to claim 10, wherein one of said holding  
portions which is forwardly positioned is for holding a writing medium tightened by  
the writing medium feeding mechanism, and

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19. The writing instrument according to claim 11, wherein said holding portions comprise a blade and a rib which come into contact with the writing medium passing through the through hole.

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20. The writing instrument according to claim 19, wherein when the writing medium is consumed, a consumed writing medium is held by the blade, and a next writing medium is held by the rib.

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